



State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality



November 8, 2001

M.J. "Mike" Foster
Governor

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J. Dale Givens
Secretary

Statement

RE: Calumet Investigation

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality made an unannounced air inspection of Calumet Lubricants Company's facility in Shreveport today. The inspection was a response in part to the spill of approximately 20 barrels of high sulfur content oil and to citizens' concerns about odors from the facility. DEQ inspectors focused their attention on areas where the spill occurred, storage tanks, transfer points, and areas that can be associated with leaks in valves that the Department thinks may be contributing to the odor problem. The intent of the inspection is to identify corrective measures necessary to prevent a similar occurrence, to address ongoing odor problems from the facility and to make sure the facility is in full compliance with its environmental permits. The investigation is ongoing.

On Wednesday, officials with DEQ expressed their expectations about the elimination of odor problems to facility representatives. Northwest regional DEQ staff met with Calumet officials in the beginning of October to discuss DEQ's concerns about the facility. Although Calumet has reported that it instituted changes to the refinery and committed to implementing other changes, the Department will press for further actions by Calumet to ensure resolution of all problems. The Department intends to use all resources available to bring about appropriate resolution of any problems that are identified at the Calumet facility.
